

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Town of Plymouth. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of the Town of Plymouth

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 0.6% (690) of these admissions reside in the Town of Plymouth.¹ **Please note that these statistics represent only admissions, and can represent a figure larger than the actual number of individuals.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Town of Plymouth reported the following characteristics:

- 69.5% (480) were male and 30.4% (210) were female.
- 60% (414) were between the ages of 30-49.
- 87.9% (607) were white non-Latino, 5.2% (36) were black non-Latino, 4.2% (29) were Latino, and 2.6% (18) were other racial categories.
- 52.9% (365) were never married, 18.4% (127) were married, and 28.7% (198) reported not to be married now.
- 18.4% (127) had less than high school education, 52.6% (363) completed high school, and 28.9% (200) had more than high school education.
- 38.1% (263) were employed.
- 12.3% (85) were homeless.
- 33.1% (229) had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Town of Plymouth.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
Town	63%	21%	5%	4%	1%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

¹ To protect client confidentiality, statistics representing clients under 18 years of age have been omitted from this fact sheet.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Number of admissions Reporting Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003							
Town of Plymouth							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '96	586	490	211	149	77	126	96
FY '97	670	541	244	165	81	149	109
FY '98	745	617	220	176	87	175	123
FY '99	888	742	282	229	106	180	130
FY '00	848	680	260	204	96	212	148
FY '01	813	677	263	184	83	193	131
FY '02	761	595	228	163	77	203	153
FY '03	690	525	178	164	68	178	126

Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Town of Plymouth and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

